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COLLECTION OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HUNTINGTON,
WEST VIRGINIA

Accession Number
2014/05.0816



Special Collections Department
James E. Morrow Library
Marshall University
Huntington, West Virginia
2014

First Presbyterian Church Collection

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First Presbyterian Church Collection

Accession Number: 2014/05.0816

Processed By: Katherine Endicott, Brooks Bryant, and Jessi Rinehart

Date Completed: May 6, 2014

Location: Morrow Library, Special Collections Department, Marshall University,
Huntington, WV 25705

Collection Name: The First Presbyterian Church of Huntington

Date: 1890-2008. Bulk of the content: 1930-2002

This collection was a gift from the First Presbyterian Church of Huntington. The boxes are arranged in original order imposed by the creator of the collection. There is no restriction on accessing the collection.

Related Collection: In addition to this collection, there is a separate First Presbyterian Church of Huntington, WV collection within the archives at Morrow Library. This collection contains records of the First Presbyterian Church from 1839 to 1990, with the bulk of the content falling between 1880 and 1990. Within the collection are records of church finance, meetings, government, social groups, histories, and marital and baptismal registers. For more information on this collection, the accession number is 2007/02.0757.

Processing Note: For organizational purposes, some folders and boxes have been combined in order to create more shelf-space.

The First Presbyterian Church of Huntington collection houses a significant amount of photographs and scrapbooks. While processing the collection we faced certain challenges concerning the photographs. Some of the issues included deteriorated photos and pages in scrapbooks, mold, disorganized and unlabeled pictures, and binding that was impractical for archival storage. In order to process the collection we had to clean pictures, remove them from photo albums, cut spiral binding, and in some cases place photographs into individual wrappings with respective labeling. The photographs in the collection ranged from photo albums of district members, deacons, families, and events held by the church. The scrapbooks included sanctuary renovations and general church photographs and scriptures. The scrapbooks were left in their original binding as long as they were in good condition

Perhaps the most interesting part of the First Presbyterian Church collection is the Victor Animatograph lantern slides. These glass slides are Victor "Featherweight" Slides containing a single pane of glass with shellac on the opposite side that protects the image and prevents scratching. The Featherweight slides were a multi-purpose slide able to be played in different Stereopticons; they were less expensive, produced a high quality

image, and were very durable. The slides proved challenging to archive due to their number scheme, which ranged from a three digit to a five digit numeric scheme. However, the Victor catalog we received from the University of Iowa Archives arranged the glass slides in alphabetical order, completely negating their numeric scheme. Furthermore, there are a total of 190 glass slides in the First Presbyterian Church collection, but even with the catalog we were only able to identify 98 of them. Cleaning the slides proved less challenging; the main directive of cleaning the glass slides was to make sure to only clean the glass slide and not the shellac side. For more information on the Victor Animatograph Co., please visit the following website from the University of Iowa Archives: <http://collguides.lib.uiowa.edu/?MSC0153>.

Abstract

This collection contains the records of the First Presbyterian Church of Huntington from the 1890s to the early 2000s. Most of the collection falls between 1930 and 2002. Within the collection are administrative records such as minutes, registers, and accounting records; photographs of members, non-members, former members, church functions; scrapbooks of sanctuary renovations, church functions, and miscellaneous ephemera; newspaper clippings; an international collection; histories of the First Presbyterian Church; a large collection of lantern slides; and other various items.

A Brief History of the First Presbyterian Church of Huntington, West Virginia

- In 1838, “The Western Presbyterian Church” was organized by 18 Cabell County Presbyterians in the then unfinished chapel at Marshall Academy.
- In 1870, Holderby Chapel was built near 16th Street.
- In 1871, the church was renamed “The Huntington Presbyterian Church,” then later renamed “The First Presbyterian Church of Huntington” in 1873.
- In 1872, a small church was erected at the rear of the church’s 5th Avenue lot.
- August 1895, cornerstone of new sanctuary was laid.
- 1908, Funds allocated to organize the Second Presbyterian Church, in 1913 the Highlawn Presbyterian Church opened, the Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church opened in 1945, the Enslow Presbyterian Church opened in 1949, the Bates Presbyterian Church opened in 1956, and the Rome (Ohio) Presbyterian Church opened in 1958.
- 1913, 75th anniversary of the church celebrated and Sunday School added to church.
- 1924, land was purchased on the south side of 10th Avenue between 9th and 10th Streets with plans to build a new church and recreation building. The depression ended these plans.
- 1951, land sold to YMCA.

- 1951, Church School building erected.
- 1954, Moller pipe organ installed.
- 1962, first services held at Cabwaylingo Presbyterian Chapel at Dunlow.
- 1963, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States held its 103rd annual meeting in the First Presbyterian Church's facilities from April 25-30; the church also celebrated their 125th anniversary.
- In 1965, the first International House program was held in the church's facilities. 180 international students, from 43 countries, came from 40 American colleges and universities to spend their Christmas vacation at the church.
- In 1976, construction of the Presbyterian Manor, a skilled healthcare facility, was begun. First Presbyterian Church maintained ownership of Presbyterian Manor until 1998.
- In 1977, the church built Riverview Manor, overlooking the Ohio River, providing 114 apartments for the elderly and disabled.
- In 1988, the 150th anniversary, the congregation voted to proceed with plans for the renovation of the church building to make it safer, more accessible, and more functional. This project proceeded through the 1990s as a \$3.5 million project.
- 2005, the church celebrated 100 years in their sanctuary.

Collection Inventory

Series I: Administration

Box One

This box contains fourteen folders with information on church sessions. The first four cover the years 1926-1942, but there is a significant time-gap between the next ten, which range from 1995-2002. Folder 14 houses miscellaneous administration papers such as monthly themes for the church, meetings, notes on missing volumes, and notes on a congregational workshop. These papers only have dates for two volumes, but the rest of the collection has no clear dates on any of the information. Since these papers were grouped together with the sessions, we decided to keep them in their original order and place them under series one.

- Folder 1 – 1926-1934
- Folder 2 – 1926-1934 (continued)
- Folder 3 – 1934- 1942
- Folder 4 – 1934-1942 (continued)
- Folder 5 – 1995
- Folder 6 – 1996
- Folder 7 – 1997
- Folder 8 – 1998
- Folder 9 – 1999
- Folder 10 – 1999
- Folder 11 – 2000
- Folder 12 – 2001
- Folder 13 – 2002

History

These folders document the growing history of the church from 1947-1965. The folders contain a brief history of the origin of the church, histories of the men and women of the church, and lists of church staff and members. Folder eleven houses miscellaneous loose-leaf papers with historical highlights, lists of ministers, and special occasion pamphlets throughout the years.

- Folder 1 – 1947 – 1948
- Folder 2 – 1949 – 1950
- Folder 3 – 1949 – 1950 (continued)
- Folder 4 – 1950 – 1951
- Folder 5 – 1951 – 1952
- Folder 6 – 1952 – 1953
- Folder 7 – 1952 – 1954
- Folder 8 – 1955 – 1957
- Folder 9 – 1958 – 1960
- Folder 10 – 1961 – 1965
- Folder 11 – Miscellaneous History 1988 (?)

Board of Deacons

These folders contain records from the Board of Deacons with dates ranging from 1968-1986. The records include reports on the women and men of the church.

Folder 1 – 1968-1974

Folder 2 – 1975-1986

Box Two

Box two houses information concerning church minutes. The following two bound volumes are handwritten books containing detailed transcripts of meetings, proceedings, and personal signatures.

Bound Volume 1 – Minutes Book, April 1922 – March 1926

Bound Volume 2 – Congressional Minutes (Congregational) 1924 – 1954

Box Three

This box contains five bound volumes of secretary notes with registration information for Sunday school attendees ranging from 1890-1937.

Bound Volume 1 – 1890-1899

Bound Volume 2 – 1892 – 1895

Bound Volume 3 – 1905-1911

Bound Volume 4– Weekly Report of General Secretary Oct. 1922 – March 1930

Bound Volume 5 – Weekly Report of General Secretary April 1930 – March 1937

Box Four

Box four contains three bound volumes of record books ranging from 1908 – 1938. The volumes have registers of pastors, elders, deacons, communicants, non-communicants, baptisms, marriages, and deaths.

Bound Volume 1 – Record Book No. 3 – 1908-1915

Bound Volume 2 – Record Book No. 4 – 1915-1920

Bound Volume 3 – Pastor's Register 1933- 1938

Series II: Church Bulletins, Pamphlets, and Newsletters.

Box Five

Box five contains a bound volume with records of bulletins. The volume ranges from 1925-1929.

Bound Volume 1 – Church Bulletins, March 1, 1925 – March 31, 1929

Box Six

This box contains loose-leaf paper collections of newsletters, bulletins, and pamphlets ranging from 2000-2002. There is also a collection of miscellaneous pamphlets with varying dates that we placed under this series.

Volume 1 – Bulletins 2000

Volume 2 – Bulletins 2001

Volume 3 – Bulletins 2002

Volume 4 – Newsletters 2000-2002

Folder 1 – Miscellaneous Pamphlets 1890(?) – 1998(?)

Series III. Newspaper Articles

Box Seven

The newspaper clippings in this series consist of Huntington, West Virginia newspapers - *The Herald Dispatch*, *the Advertiser*, *The Herald-Advertiser*, and *The Huntington Advertiser*. The articles range in dates from 1929 to 1983. The content of the articles focus on people, events, and changes in the First Presbyterian Church of Huntington, West Virginia.

Folder 1 - *The Herald-Advertiser*. Sunday, August 18, 1929.

Folder 2 - *The Herald-Advertiser*. Sunday, Jan. 21, 1951.

Folder 3 - *The Herald Dispatch*. April, 24, 1963.

Folder 4 - *The Herald Dispatch*. April, 25, 1963.

Folder 5 - *The Herald Dispatch*. April, 26, 1963.

Folder 6 - *The Herald Dispatch*. April, 27, 1963.

Folder 7 - *The Huntington Advertiser*. Thursday Evening, June 20, 1968.

Folder 8 - *The Herald Advertiser*. Sunday, March 15, 1970.

Folder 9 - *The Advertiser*. Thursday. February 2, 1978.

Folder 10 - *The West Virginia Hillbilly*. Vol. 24. No. 23. June 4, 1983.

Series IV: Photographs, Obituaries, and Scrapbooks

Box Eight

This box contains various pictures that were taken from bound photo albums and placed in folders. The photo albums include members, non-members, former members, and activities conducted by the church. The timeline of these photos spans from the 1940s to the 1980s.

Folder 1: FPC Non-Resident Members

Folder 2: FPC Photo Album Former Members

Folder 3: FPC Photo Album District 1 to 8

Folder 4: FPC Photo Album District 9 to 14

Folder 5: FPC Photo Album District 14 to 20

Folder 6: FPC Photo Album District 21 to 28

Folder 7: FPC Photo Album District 29 and 30

Folder 8: FPC Photo Album Elders and Deacons

Folder 9: FPC Photo Album Bible School "Sunday School Pictures"

Folder 10: FPC Photo Album Miscellaneous Pictures Labeled (Names) (1980s)

Folder 11: FPC Photo Album Vacation Church School Aug. 7 – 11, 1978

Folder 12: FPC Photo Album Miscellaneous Photos 1940s – 1970s

Obituaries

The obituaries contain albums of photographs of deceased members, newspaper clippings of obituaries, and a collection of obituaries put together by the church.

Folder 1: FPC Obituaries: In Remembrance

Folder 2: FPC Obituaries Deceased Members Photos

Folder 3: FPC Obituaries Collection Volume 1

Folder 4: FPC Obituaries Collection Volume 2

Scrapbooks

The photographs in the 1950s scrapbook focus around activities and plays conducted by the church. On one sheet there is a picture and on the next is a copy of the picture with labels of each individual in the photograph.

Folder 1: FPC Scrapbook 1, "Photographs Mostly 1950s"

Folder 2: FPC Scrapbook 1, "Photographs Mostly 1950s"

Folder 3: FPC Scrapbook 1, "Photographs Mostly 1950s"

Folder 4: FPC Scrapbook 1, "Photographs Mostly 1950s"

Folder 5: FPC Scrapbook 1, "Photographs Mostly 1950s"

Folder 6: FPC Scrapbook 1, "Photographs Mostly 1950s"

Folder 7: FPC Scrapbook 1, "Photographs Mostly 1950s"

Box Nine:

Box nine houses one bound volume of Scrapbook 2. Scrapbook 2 contains pictures and plans for Sanctuary Renovations from 1967.

Bound Volume 1: Scrapbook 2 Sanctuary Renovation 1967-

Box Ten:

Box ten contains Scrapbook 3 which contains drawings, scriptures, and pictures from the First Presbyterian Church.

Bound Volume 1: Scrapbook 3

Series V: International Collection

Box Eleven:

This box contains the international collection from the church. Within it are correspondence, photos, a video tape, and miscellaneous items given as gifts from the Japanese students. Most of the items, letters, and photos are from the Japanese visit, however, there is one photo of a group of Ugandan children.

Folder 1: Japanese Correspondence 1994

Folder 2: Japanese Photos 1994

Folder 3: Japanese Photos 1994

Folder 4: Japanese Photos 1994

Folder 5: Uganda Children's Choir Photo

Video Tape: Japanese Students Visit August 4, 1994

Japanese Gift 1: Small box with miscellaneous fan items

Japanese Gift 2: Small box with miscellaneous tea items

Series VI: Victor Animatograph Lantern Slides.

This series contains Victor Animatograph Lantern Slides that are a specific type of glass slide. These glass slides are Victor "Featherweight" Slides. They are a single pane of glass with a shellac on the opposite side that protects the image, and prevents scratching. Featherweight slides are framed giving them the dimensions of 3 ¼ x 4 inch. The Featherweight slides were a multi-purpose slide able to be played in different Stereopticons. Prior to the Featherweight slides, the Victor Corporation produced, glass slides were heavy, bulky, and expensive. The Featherweight slides were less expensive

and produced a high quality image and are very durable. Within this series 98 slides of 190, we were able to identify through a Victor catalog from 1916, which we obtained through the University of Iowa. The University of Iowa Archives houses the Victor Animatograph Corporation Papers. <http://collguides.lib.uiowa.edu/?MSC0153>

Box Twelve :

Sub-box: One

- 4910 Angelus, The--Millet.
- 31347 Anointing of Jesus,--Hofman.
- 14443 Baptism of Jesus.
- 18961 Bethlehem, Palestine.
- 21303 Blessed Art Thou Among Women. Fredrick Shields.
- 3829 Calling of the Fishermen, The.
- 20773 Cast the first Stone.
- 1596 Christ at Emmaus.
- 21332 Christ Blessing Children--Plockhorst.
- 21322 Christ Driving Out the Money Changers Hoffmann.
- 1585 Christ in Temple--Hofman.
- 3831 Christ on the Sea.
- 2089 Christ Stilling Sea.
- 1506 Christ taken Captive--Hofman.
- 3896 Christ the King.
- 1560 Christ with Mary and Martha-Hofmann.
- 13101 Christmas Bell with Star and Holly.
- 18086 Courtyard of an Inn-Palestine.
- 21349 Christ and Rich Young Ruler Hofmann.
- 1528 Daughter of Jarius.
- 3419 Descent from the Cross, The.
- 1555 Disciples Asleep-In-Garden.
- 1552 Easter Morning-Hofmann.
- 21336 Feeding Multitude--Murillo.
- 3872 Foolish Virgins, The.

Sub-box: Two

- 4939 Fountain at Nazareth, The
- 4908 Gleaners, The
- 3856 Good Samaritan at the Well, The
- 1653 Healing of the Blind Man, The
- 3820 Healing of the Leper.
- 2614 Jephtha's Daughter and her Companion--Dore.
- 1546 Jesus Addressing Daughters of Jerusalem.
- 16358 Jesus Agony in Gethsemane. Matthew XXVI: 38, 39.
- 2174 Jesus and his Disciples in the Corn Field.
- 3807 Jesus as a Boy.
- 4941 Jesus First Trip to Jerusalem.
- 4941 Jesus at School.
- 2177 Jesus Blessing the Children-Dore.
- 16362 Jesus Crowned With Thorns, Beaten and Mocked. Mark XV: 16, 19.
- 16362 Jesus Crowned with Thorns, Beaten, and Mocked. Mark XV. 16, 19.
- 1561 Jesus in the Grave.
- 4989 Jesus in the Midst.
- 3871 Jesus upon the Mount of Olives.
- 3873 Jesus Washes the Disciples Feet. John XIII: 2-3.
- 3808 John in the Wilderness.
- 3370 John's Head Brought on a Charger.
- 16364 Judas Iscariot, the End of, The Traitor. Matthew XXVII: 3, 4, 5.
- 21357 Judas Receiving the Silver.
- 3409 Judas Returns the Money to the Priests.
- 18972 Judean Shepherds Watching Their Flocks.
- 14481 Kiss of Judas, The

Sub-box: Three

- 3879 Kiss of Judas, The.
- 1647 Last Supper, The--Da--Vinci.
- 21297 Light of the World, The. W. H. Hunt.
- 20677 Market-Place, An Eastern
- 3353 Marriage of Cana, The.
- 14441 Mary and Joseph Find Jesus.
- 14436 Mary and Joseph on Way.
- 1568 Mary at Tomb.
- 2664 Matthew, The Call of
- 1539 Miraculous Draft of Fishes-Raphael.
- 5932 Moses Destroying the Golden Calf. (Slide Mislabeled).
- 3811 Nicodemus Seeks Jesus by Night.
- 1644 On the Way to Emmaus-Hoffmann.
- 16347 Parable of the Good Samaritan, The-Luke X: 33, 34.
- 21072 Paul Shipwrecked--Dore.
- 2197 Paul, The Conversion of-Dore.
- 3848 "Peace Be To This House."
- 4983 Peter at the Fire.
- 16361 Peter Denies Jesus. Luke XXII: 60.
- 2720 Peter on Water.
- 2148 Pharisees and the Publican, The.--Dore.
- 16318 Presentation of Christ in the Temple and Simeon's Prophecy, The--Luke II: 27, 32.
- 3854 Prodigal Son, The Departure of, The.
- 21341 Raising of Lazarus, The--Frederick Shields.
- 8787 Rending of the Veil of the Temple.
- 14436 Repose in Egypt.

Sub-box: Four

- 14437 Return from Egypt, The.
- 3852 Rich Young Ruler, The.
- 20657 Ruth and Naomi.
- 3322 Ruth in the Field of Boaz-Wheatley.
- 14038 Santa Claus Bidding Welcome.
- 18191 Shepherds and the Star-McConnell.
- 2659 Shepherds at the Manager, The
- 3358 Simon and Andrew, The Calling of Geoffrey.
- 20807 Stone Rolled Away, The
- 20807 Stone Rolled Away, The.
- 2102 Stoning of Stephen.
- 20741 Temptation of Christ. Hoffmann.
- 13100 To Wish You Christmas Cheer (Holly Wreath),
- 14041 Toys under Christmas tree.
- 8799 Tribute Money, The Question of the
- 3866 Triumphal Entry to Caesarea, The.
- 20861 Village Weaver, Palestine.
- 3869 Widow's Mite, The
- 18192 Wise Men and the Star, W. L. Taylor
- 8711 Wise Men before Herod, The
- 1612 Wise Men Presenting Their Gifts.
- 4953 Woman at Jacob's Well, The.
- 20635 Woman Grinding at Mill, Bethany.

Box Thirteen:

Sub-box Five: Unidentified Jesus Scenes.

Sub-box Six: Unidentified Religious and Patriotic Themes.

Sub-box Seven: Unidentified Religious Themes.

Sub-box Eight: Unidentified Religious Themes.

